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Testimony in Support of S.B. 166

An Act Concerning the Appointment and Qualification of the State Building Inspector, Submission of Certain Documents to the State Building Inspector, Internet Publication of The List of Variances from the State Building Code, the Period of Service of an Acting Building Official, Certain Acoustical Standards and Path Marking Systems.

Submitted by:

Gina Calabro, Executive Director/CEO, AIA Connecticut 370 James Street, New Haven, CT 06513

Representative Horn, Senator Osten, Representative Paolillo, Senator Champagne, Representative Howard, and Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee.

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, a professional association of over 1,500 members, wishes to express our support of S.B. 166, lines 29-35.

We understand the importance of having a professional in the building industry hold this position and are well aware of the knowledge needed to perform these duties. A thorough knowledge of the building code is pertinent to this appointment, and we support the addition of a building official with 10 or more years of experience if they have the required qualifications to hold the post and are recommended for candidacy by their professional organization. As such, we are in support of these changes and would like to submit the following addition underlined below.

The State Building Inspector shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Administrative Services. The State Building Inspector shall be an architect, professional engineer or building official licensed by the state of Connecticut <u>recommended for candidacy by their professional organization</u>, shall have a thorough knowledge of building code administration and enforcement, and shall have had not less than ten years practical experience in his or her profession.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

Thank you for your consideration.